

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 were pending. Claims 1 and 3-16 are rejected. Claim 2 is objected to. Claim 1 has been canceled without prejudice. Claims 2-7 and 12 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for indicating allowable subject matter. The Examiner has indicated that Claim 2 would be allowable if amended. Claim 2 has been rewritten in independent form. Applicant respectfully suggests that Claim 2 is in condition for allowance.

35 U.S.C. 103(a) Rejections

Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Hasebe et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,392,351, in view of Best, U.S. Patent No. 4,465,901, further in view of McNair, U.S. Patent No. 5,278,905.

As noted above, Claim 1 has been canceled. The Examiner is respectfully directed to independent Claim 2, which, as amended, recites that an embodiment of the present invention is directed to:

A method for improving the security of software, comprising the steps of:
 reading encrypted software from a non-volatile storage medium;
 storing said encrypted software in a temporary storage medium;
and,
 contemporaneously decrypting a portion of said encrypted software as said portion is read into an instruction cache in a processor, and wherein any portion of said encrypted software not read into said instruction cache is left in an encrypted state.

Claims 7 and 12 recite similar limitations. Claims 3-6 are dependent upon Claim 2, and recite additional features of the claimed invention. Claims 8-11 are dependent upon Claim 7, and recite additional features of the claimed invention. Claims 13-16 are dependent upon Claim 12, and recite additional features of the claimed invention.

The rejection acknowledges that Hasebe, alone or in combination with Best and McNair, fails to describe the embodiments of the invention recited in Claim 2, in that Hasebe, Best, and McNair do not describe contemporaneously decrypting a portion of said encrypted software as said portion is read into an instruction cache in a processor, and wherein any portion of said encrypted software not read into said instruction cache is left in an encrypted state, as claimed. Independent Claims 7 and 12 recite a similar limitation.

Therefore, the Applicant respectfully submits that the claimed embodiments of the invention as set forth in Claims 2, 7, and 12 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Applicants also respectfully submit that Claims 3-6, 8-11, and 13-16 dependent on Claims 1, 7, and 12 respectively, overcome the basis for rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), as they are dependent on allowable base claims.

Conclusion


In light of the above-listed amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the remaining Claims.

The Examiner is urged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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